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The Great Anti-Miller Combine.

If there has ever been a political mix-up in this State's politics like the one now bewildering us, it is not recorded in the *Tribune Almanac*; and, doubtless to the surprise of his own modesty, the Hon. WARNER MILLER has been boosted into a prominence, which he scarcely could have dreamed of, even when he was hoping to be elected Governor seven years ago. This year all the big guns, Republican and Democratic alike, are trained on Brother MILLER, the champion of the regular Republican State platform for the maintenance of the Sunday law, or, in practical terms, against the Sunday sale of liquor in or out of Herkimer.

It was to be expected that the doings of THEODORE ROOSEVELT would drive the Democratic State organization into taking issue with MILLER, and that Tammany Hall would be in the front of the fight. But who could have looked for the crushing alliance between almost everybody except MILLER for the humiliation of MILLER and the Republican platform?

At the head of the foes of MILLER, the JONELY ROOSEVELT champion, is DAVID BENNETT HILL flying the Democratic flag. Then comes Tammany Hall; then THOMAS COLLIER PLATT and the Republican party of New York county. With them, OSWALD OTTENBERGER, for anti-Tammany, and HERMAN RIDDER, for Tammany, and the German-American Reform Union, the Good Government Clubs, Dr. PARKHURST, WILLIAM R. GRACE, and CHARLES S. FAIRCHILD, and the Committee of Seventy, shrink to fifty, not to mention the WILLIAM L. STRONG coterie, whose season tickets to the Republican councils have been called in and revokable as of pleasure. All this immense reforming organization is opposed to MILLER and the Republican State platform, and for the sale of beer on Sunday!

Again the Herkimer statesman is not on the same side of the breastworks as the majority of other famous New Yorkers. He may continue to think, however, that for this campaign he is inside and the others are outside. And so let him think.

The Fusion Ticket.

The chief enemies of the Democratic party, the Republicans and the special CLEVELAND Democrats, came together in this town on Monday night and put up a fusion ticket. Ostensibly nominated for the benefit of non-partisan reform, it is actually a combination to injure and disable, in the year preceding an important and uncertain Presidential election, the local Democracy by depriving it of two offices which under the protection of the Constitution, have withstood the assaults of the recent Republican Legislature. Ever since the foundation of the Republican party every County Clerk elected in New York City has been a Democrat, and every effort which has been projected to wrest the office from the hands of the Democratic party has failed utterly and often ignominiously. The most audacious attempt to capture the County Clerk's office for a Republican was made in this town in 1890, and was defeated by a majority of more than 80,000.

The County Clerk, as the recording official of the Supreme Court and, conspicuously, as the Secretary and supervising agent of the Board of County Commissioners, is an important functionary in the machinery of elections. It is for that reason that the Republicans have labored, thus far unavailingly, to secure the place, and why the Democrats have always resisted the effort. They will do so again this year.

The office of Register, which is of much smaller political importance, was, in the fusion of Monday night, given to the CLEVELAND Democrats, so called, and the condition of its bestowal and of the bestowal of two other offices was that they should agree to run candidates for legislative offices in every district of the town to divert sufficient votes from the regular Democratic nominees to make sure of a Republican success. State Senators are to be elected next month for the term of three years, and the success of the Republicans in securing control of the Senate means the predominance of the Republican party during that period, and would wrest from the Democracy until 1899 the last flickering hope of recovering a portion of what treason to its principles in high places cost it a year ago. The Assembly is much less important, but this year it furnishes the Democrats a better opportunity for capturing doubtful up-State districts than they will have next year, when the Presidential candidates are to be voted for and a larger Republican vote will be brought to the polls.

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The only chance of broadening the general excise laws, or of securing special excise regulations, if such are desired by a majority of the voters of this town, lies in the election of a Democratic Legislature. No matter what illusions in this regard Mr. LAUTERBACH and his friends may cherish, or may seek to produce in others, the great mass of the Republican party will be found solidly opposed to widening the privileges of the saloon by consulting the convenience of their customers. Platform declarations are seldom so sincere; but the excise plank which the Hon. WARNER MILLER forced upon the Republican State Convention is thoroughly sincere. Regarded by most of the Republican leaders here as an imprudence, it has at least the merit of being a warning to all persons who believe in more liberal excise laws, against voting for Republican Senators and Assemblymen. Republican candidates for the Senate and the Assembly in districts in this city and some other cities may pledge themselves to vote for local option and what not, but in case of their election and the election of a Republican Legislature, they would amount to nothing at Albany. They would be exempted by their Republican colleagues.

The election of a Democratic Legislature, as well as of a Democratic Legislature may be a condition precedent to such excise legislation as is desired by large numbers of both parties in this city. We don't advise anybody to expect such legislation immediately. It will not be attained without a long, steady effort. It is likely enough that it will not be attained at all. There is no sense in blinking at the facts. Many rural Democrats hold, with most of the rural Republicans, that the present excise laws are liberal enough; and as far as the remedy called local option is concerned, there are Democrats who, while believing in an easier general excise law, believe that such a law should continue to be general, and should not be split into particular and varying degrees of license for different communities. The fact remains that the only hope of a change rests with the Democrats.

The difficulties in the way of a new excise law being so considerable, and the prospects of securing such a law being necessarily not immediate, the task to which all the voters in this town who are in favor of legalizing the sale of liquor during certain hours on Sunday should address themselves, is to put into power in the City Hall an administration which will enforce the existing law with discretion and without depending upon spies and informers.

Without reference to State or national politics, the result of the local election will fall to be either to strengthen or to weaken the only Democratic organization here, which has a great number of votes and believes in a rational and decent enforcement, without spectacular effects or injustice or spying, of the existing Excise law until a better one shall be enacted. The minor so-called Democratic organizations are incapable of anything more than a grab at the spoils. The faction of Republicans which in command of the city campaign this year, professes liberal opinions as to excise matters, but the incongruity of such opinions with the Republican platform is palpable.

While the officers to be elected next month will have to be elected to the next month for the term of three years, and the success of the Republicans in securing control of the Senate means the predominance of the Republican party during that period, and would wrest from the Democracy until 1899 the last flickering hope of recovering a portion of what treason to its principles in high places cost it a year ago. The Assembly is much less important, but this year it furnishes the Democrats a better opportunity for capturing doubtful up-State districts than they will have next year, when the Presidential candidates are to be voted for and a larger Republican vote will be brought to the polls.

The Republican nominees upon the ticket nominated at Lyric Hall on Monday night are those of amiable, honorable, and well-qualified gentlemen, chosen to them with special reference to their past defeats, rather than their present chances of election. These candidates, if nominated with the honest purpose, and sincere intent, of electing them on a straight ticket, would justify the support of all Republicans; actually, they have been put up to be knocked down, and no error has been made in the choice of candidates seasoned, so to speak, to such usage. We recapitulate:

1887: ERNEST HALL, Republican candidate for City Clerk in 1887, and defeated by 28,000 majority, was nominated on Monday night for Supreme Court Judge.

1889: THOMAS ALDERMAN, a candidate for Common Pleas Judge in 1889, and defeated by 16,000, was nominated on Monday night for Judge of the Court of General Sessions.

1890: JAMES W. HAWES, defeated on the ill-fated P. M. L. ticket of 1890, by 86,000 majority, was nominated on Monday night for a City Court Judge.

1891: MYERS S. ISAACS, who was a candidate for Superior Court Judge in 1891, and defeated by 34,000 majority, was nominated on Monday night for a Justice of the Supreme Court.

1892: HENRY C. BOTTY, the Republican candidate for County Clerk in 1892, and defeated by a majority of 73,000, is now nominated for a City Court Judge.

1893: THOMAS L. HAMILTON, the Republican candidate for Sheriff in 1893 and beaten by a majority of 63,000, was nomi-

nated on Monday night as the Republican candidate for County Clerk.

Thus the Republicans, in making up their ticket on Monday night, have culled from each of the tickets defeated in recent years one candidate apiece, but by some inadvertence, which it is difficult to attribute to any one but Mr. LAUTERBACH in person, there is a failure to select any Republican defeated candidate from the ticket of 1888, a year which may have been omitted because in that year this State was carried by the Republicans for Gen. HARRISON, and was, therefore, not a year of Republican defeat.

Here, then, is the fusion ticket, made up of seven Republicans, representing six previous defeats, with C. C. BEAMER, for Supreme Court Judge added for good measure; and of three Democrats of the CLEVELAND brand, chosen on condition that their associates shall put in nomination separate candidates for the Senate and Assembly